

CLAIMS:

1. An apparatus for applying a zipper strip to a moving film transversely to the direction of movement of the film, comprising means for producing continuous movement of the film in the said direction, applicator means arranged to receive the zipper strip, to present it to the film at a first location and to move with the film in the said direction to a second location, and sealing means arranged to move together with the applicator means in the said direction from the first to the second location to effect sealing of the zipper strip to the film during the said movement, the applicator means and the sealing means being arranged for reciprocal return movement in a direction opposite to the said direction from the second location to the first location.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, including a zipper-supply means arranged to supply lengths of zipper strip to the applicator means, the applicator means, the zipper-supply means and the sealing means being arranged for movement as a unit between the first and second locations.

3. An apparatus according to claim 2, in which the zipper-supply means comprises means for cutting continuous zipper into lengths for application to the film and means for feeding the continuous zipper to the cutting means.

4. An apparatus according to claim 3, including means for receiving a continuous zipper supply, the supply-receiving means being stationary relative to the zipper-supply means.

5. An apparatus according to any preceding claim, in which the applicator means and the sealing means are located at respective opposite sides of the film.

6. An apparatus according to any preceding claim, in which the sealing means comprises a heated sealing bar.

7. An apparatus according to any preceding claim, in which the applicator means and the sealing means are reciprocally driven by a linear motor.

8. An apparatus according to any preceding claim, in which the applicator means is movable towards and away from the film in a direction substantially perpendicular to the said direction.

9. A method of applying a zipper strip to a moving film transversely to the direction of movement of the film, the method comprising moving the film continuously in said direction, supplying a zipper strip to the film at a first location by an applicator means, moving the applicator means and sealing means together with each other in the said direction from the first to the second location to effect sealing of the zipper strip to the film during the movement from the first to the second location, and returning the applicator means and sealing means in a direction opposite to the said direction from the second to the first location.

10. A method according to claim 9, in which the lengths of zipper strip are supplied to the applicator means from a zipper-supply means, the zipper-supply means being moved as a unit with the applicator means and the sealing means between the first and second locations.

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11. A method according to claim 10, in which the further zipper strip length is supplied to the applicator means after sealing of the first zipper strip length to the film but prior to arrival of the applicator means, zipper-supply means and sealing means at the second location.

12. A method according to claim 11, in which the further zipper strip length is supplied to the applicator means during the return movement of the applicator means, zipper-supply means and sealing means to the first location.

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13. A method according to any of claims 9 to 12, in which the applicator means is moved at the first location in a direction substantially perpendicular to the said direction of movement of the film, in order to apply the zipper to the
10 film and is moved in the opposite direction after sealing of the zipper strip to the film and prior to its return movement to the first location.

14. An apparatus for applying a zipper to a film,
15 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

15. A method of apparatus for applying a zipper to a film, the method being substantially as hereinbefore described
20 with reference to the drawings.